

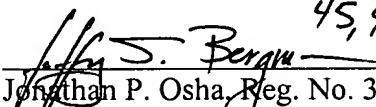
**REMARKS**

Please amend the title, specification, and abstract as specified above. Also, please cancel claims 1-6 and add new claims 7-16, as indicated. Applicant submits that the above new claims and amendments are fully supported by the original specification and that no new matter has been added.

The amendments to the claims are not made in view of prior art. Applicant believes this application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 09669/009002).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/12/03

 45,925  
Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986  
ROSENTHAL & OSHA L.L.P.  
1221 McKinney, Suite 2800  
Houston, TX 77010

Telephone: (713) 228-8600  
Facsimile: (713) 228-8778